Now the League fell into a decline, its proceedings little noticed, members falling away, contributions collected with difficulty, or not at all; Herr Greiser, President of the Danzig Senate, actually cocking a snook at assembled delegates. An imposing Palais des Nations, planned when prospects were brighter, stood, desolate, by the Lake of Geneva, large assembly halls empty, lavish accommodation for journalists and visitors, unused, a commodious and well-stocked library provided by the Rockefeller Foundation, entered rarely. Perhaps ghosts walked there, but few live persons; perhaps ghosts orated, ghostly voices proclaiming ghostly hopes in the stillness of night, shadows flitting—Wilson, Briand, Stresemann, my frrriends.

Their kingdom, like Haile Selassie's, had vanished and gone; attempts to revive it when it was seen to be languishing, all were fruitless. It was an idea they had raised as their standard, seemingly fluttering proudly, seemingly fluttering; then only a flagpole with no flag attached. Friends deserted and enemies adhered; the Soviet Government, once confident that the League was a 'hypocritical organisation whose thin veneer of internationalist cant did not hide from a discerning eye shameless imperialist intentions', sent Litvinov to Geneva, where he soon was regarded as the Covenant's most faithful adherent, perhaps its only true one. In time, even he came no more; a suggestion made when he resigned his post as Commissar for Foreign Affairs, that he might be appointed *a roving ambassador of goodwill', not fructifying; no more good- or ill-will emanating from this plump Jew, once Mr. Harris with lodgings conveniently near

the British Museum, no more ambassadorial appointments for him, roving or stationary; on the rare occasions that he appeared at public functions in Moscow, the chairs on either side of him ostentatiously unoccupied.

Bearded Scandinavians, Titulescu, Politis—Geneva knew them no more. The last agenda, discussed before the outbreak of another European war, 'included items relating to nutrition and the unification of signals at level-crossings.' Then only the Secretariat remained, indestructible, but under instructions that